

## REMARKS

Claims 54-87 were rejected under 35 USC 103 based on Nakashima et al, Giorgio et al and Cox et al. Independent claims 54, 62, 70 and 79 have been amended above. Support for the amendment can be found on Page 18 first paragraph. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as applied to the amended claims based on the following:

Amended claim 54 recites a method for communicating to a host system a numerically variable characteristic of a subsystem. The subsystem receives a request from the host system to monitor the numerically variable characteristic of the subsystem and report to the host system a value of the characteristic or an amount of change of the characteristic when a minimum numerical amount of the change occurs. The request specifies the minimum numerical amount of the change. In response to the receiving step, the subsystem monitors the characteristic of the subsystem. If and approximately when the minimum numerical amount of the change subsequently occurs in the characteristic, the subsystem reports a value of the characteristic or an amount of change of the characteristic to the host system. If no change occurs or less than the minimum numerical amount of change occurs before a predetermined time-out, the subsystem reports to the host system a value of the characteristic or an amount of change of the characteristic upon the predetermined time-out.

As noted above in amended claim 54, the invention pertains to the (a) **timing** of when the report is sent to the host system, (b) the **nature of the thing which is reported**, and (c) that **the host computer specifies what amount of change is sufficiently noteworthy to warrant a report**. As for (b), a value of or change of a **numerically variable characteristic** is reported. As for (a), the value of or change of the characteristic is reported if **and approximately when the** characteristic changes at least a specified minimum numerical amount. This combination of elements distinguishes amended claim 54 from the prior art.

Nakashima et al. disclose polling and also asynchronous reporting of **status** information messages, i.e. traps. However, Nakashima et al. do not disclose or suggest reporting of a

numerically variable characteristic. Also, Nakashima et al. do not disclose that the numerical minimum is specified by the host computer. Also, Nakashima et al. do not disclose the report at the end of a predetermined timeout in the absence of change. Therefore, three features of claim 54 are not taught by Nakashima et al. Neither feature would have been obvious in view of Nakashima et al. because Nakashima et al. are concerned with the occurrence of **events** such as the occurrence of faults or configuration changes:

"This status message T, serving as a "trap" defined in the SNMP specification, delivers event information such as faults or configuration changes occurred in the monitored controllers." Nakashima et al. Column 4 lines 44-46.

These types of events are not quantified; they either occur or do not occur. So, there are no numerical minimums to specify, no need for the host computer to specify them, and no suggestion in Nakashima et al. to consider numerical minimums. Also, the traps of Nakashima et al. are not generated in the absence of an event at the end of a predetermined time-out. It is inconsistent with the traditional concept of a "trap" to generate it when nothing happens. Therefore, amended claim 54 was not obvious in view of Nakashima et al.

Giorgio et al. also disclose the reporting of **events** such as reset, power on, power off or removal of a storage media from a controller:

"SCSI is an intelligent protocol whereby bus sequences and target/initiator conditions are monitored. There are a number of conditions designated as UNIT ATTENTION. It will be described using target 24a although it is to be understood it is the same for all targets 24a-g. These UNIT ATTENTION conditions exist when the controller 10 or an SCSI target 24a is reset, power to a target controller 10 is cycled from OFF to ON or from ON to OFF, or media has been removed and replaced within the internal controller of target 24a." Column 4 lines 58-67.

So, in Giorgio et al., there are no numerical minimums to specify, no need for the host computer to specify them, and therefore no suggestion to consider numerical minimums. Also, a trap is not

made in the absence of an event. Therefore, claim 54 was not obvious in view of Giorgio et al. Moreover, because these three features of claim 54 are absent from both Nakashima et al. and Giorgio et al. and there was no suggestion in either Nakashima et al. or Giorgio et al for these features, these features would not have been obvious in view of the combination of Nakashima et al. and Giorgio et al.

Cox et al. teach a technique for calculating an aggregate status of multiple resources based on the individual status of each resource. Cox et al. also disclose, "Such network management products are arranged to receive reports generated by network elements and management facilities whenever the **state** of a monitored resource changes." Column 2 lines 5-9. Thus, Cox et al. monitor **states** of resources and not a numerically variable characteristic of the resource.

Also, there is no disclosure in Cox et al. for the host to specify the minimum numerical amount of the change that would initiate the report. Therefore, Cox et al. do not disclose or suggest key elements of claim 54, and the combination of Nakashima et al., Giorgio et al. and Cox et al. do not disclose or suggest these key elements.

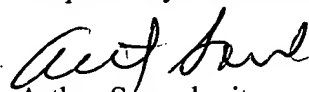
Independent claim 62 distinguishes over the prior art for similar reasons as claim 54 distinguishes thereover.

Independent claims 70 and 79 distinguish over the prior art for similar reasons as claims 54 and 62, except claims 70 and 79 recite that the report is made upon any change to the numerically variable characteristic and at the end of the predetermined timeout, if not change. (In claims 70 and 79, the host system does not specify an amount of change to warrant a report.)

Dependent claims 57, 65, 72 and 82 further distinguish over the prior art by reciting that the numerically variable characteristic is temperature.

Based on the foregoing, the present patent application as amended above should be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arthur Samodovitz', is written over the printed name.

Arthur Samodovitz

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